This month at Northminster

Annual Congregational Meeting

The Session has called the Annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, January 30th, at 11:15 am. We will receive annual reports from 2021, elect additional officers needed, learn about planning for 2022, hear an update from the Pastoral Nominating Committee, and receive all other business that is brought before the congregation.

Lunch will be served by Circle 3 and childcare will be available. Look for additional information in the coming weeks!

For more information about these and other events and classes, go to www.northminster-indy.org and click on Events.
Meet Some New Faces Joining Us in 2022

Northminster is thrilled to welcome two new staff members to our team beginning in January, 2022. Our front office soon will be home to a part-time administrative assistant and a full-time Communications Director. We thought you might like to learn a bit more about each of these individuals prior to their arrival in the new year.

Myrna Beth Nisenbaum, Administrative Assistant
A native Indianapolis resident growing up on the north side, Myrna graduated from North Central H.S. and earned a B.A. in English Literature from Indiana University, Bloomington. She later completed a B.S. in Secondary English Education at IUPUI. While she did not ultimately choose teaching as her profession, the experience was life-changing in many positive ways. Myrna has worked for 40+ years as an administrative assistant at Barnes & Thornburg, the IMA, Butler University, and at a few other organizations. She likes working with people in a serving capacity and learning new things.

In her free time, Myrna enjoys reading, baking, spending time with family and friends, and watching her favorite TV series and cooking shows. But most of all, she has a “live and let live” philosophy of life. Myrna shared that she is so looking forward to serving as an administrative assistant at Northminster and meeting the community here.

Collin Obremski, Communications Director
Collin grew up in Kokomo, graduating from Indiana University, Kokomo with a double major in New Media Communication and Communication Arts. Shortly after graduating college, he moved to the Indianapolis area and has been a resident of downtown Fishers since 2011.

Collin loves Jesus, his wife Melanie, and their extremely spoiled miniature poodle, Macie. He has been involved in ministry since he was a child, from playing in the handbell choir to leading contemporary worship. Professionally, Collin has worked in corporate marketing, church communications, and most recently as the Student Worship Pastor at a church in Noblesville.

For fun, Collin loves spending time outdoors with Melanie & Macie, watching movies, and being a huge tech nerd. He is very excited to join the staff at Northminster in January and looks forward to meeting the people of the church, learning the heart and soul of the church, and helping communicate that heart and soul both inside and outside the walls of Northminster.

Please help us make both Myrna and Collin feel welcome when they join us in January!
Thank You from Pastor Ruth

I don’t know where to begin and how to thank all of you for the wonderful worship, open house and going away parties for me on December 11 and 12. I am so grateful for everything and humbled and seriously amazed by the outpouring of good wishes and love.

Special thanks go to the goodbye party planners – Jill de las Alas, Cheryl Plunkett, Emi Johnson and all their helpers. The Gathering Place looked lovely and festive, and the food was delightful as well. Thank you to the speakers on Sunday – Host Mike Boris, Maureen Purcell, Mick Kepper, Carol Euliss and our children Hadley, John and Emma. Thank you to the dynamic duo of John and Krista Wright for singing. Thank you to Jim Arend for the beautiful cross, the youth for the Christmas tree, and Bob Gudgel for the pew that will have pride of place in our home. Thank you to Jill de las Alas for the amazing plaque I will treasure. And special thanks and awe on my part for the portrait that Jerry Gray drew. That really blew me away, my friend!

I want to thank all of you for the lovely cards and good wishes you sent my way. And I am overwhelmed at your generosity in giving to my love gift and sending me on my way buoyed once again by your generosity and love. Mark and I are going to celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary this May by going to Paris and a river boat cruise through Provence, and we will use your gifts to make that trip a reality (Covid permitting!) so thank you. I wish I could send each of you a personal thank you note, but as 94 people contributed to the love gift I hope you will consider this my heartfelt thank you.

When I spoke on Sunday, I realized I did not thank my family for their support of my ministry over the years. From my time as Director of Christian Education, through seminary, and then as your Associate Pastor, Mark, Hadley, John and Emma have been there encouraging and supporting me in my ministry. In caring for all of you and for following my call at Northminster, I have missed family gatherings, date nights, soccer games, recitals, initiations, and have been exhausted physically, emotionally and spiritually, and yet these precious people have carried me through and loved me anyway. I am so grateful to them and love them so much!

So thank you again for the lovely weekend of getting to say goodbye, and for all the things I have learned and received from all of you over the years. It has been such an honor and privilege to follow my call to serve God with all of you.

Godspeed and many blessings,
Ruth Chadwick Moore

Follow Up to Special Congregational Meeting in December

Ruth Chadwick Moore is required to enter into the covenant below with the Committee on Ministry of Whitewater Valley Presbytery regarding her future involvement with Northminster Presbyterian Church:

- Will not become involved in any leadership or advisory (public or private) in the life of NPC;
- Will not intervene, support, or give advice to anyone involved in a congregational disagreement or dispute;
- Will not officiate in any special events in the lives of former parishioners or of the congregation, including weddings, funerals, baptisms, worship leadership, church anniversary activities, Bible studies, etc. unless expressly invited by the Moderator of the Session;
- Will refuse requests for pastoral services made by members of the congregation;
- Will consult with the moderator of the Session prior to visiting the congregation, attending worship or attending any event in the lives of congregational members or in the life of the congregation itself;
- Will refrain from giving opinions or directions regarding church business.

It is understood that this policy does not affect or require termination of friendships with individuals in the congregation.
Northminster Presents
A new event in the life of Northminster Presbyterian Church is debuting on **January 12, 2022** from 6 to 7 pm. It is to be called “Northminster Presents” and is being brought to you by the Men’s Prayer & Study Group.

A one-hour presentation of highly topical and important issues of our day are going to be presented on the second Wednesday night of the month during the spring and fall of this year.

First up in January is “ACE’s and their effect on Early Childhood Development.” ACE stands for Adverse Childhood Experiences. Come hear about this critically important issue to our local and national communities and how you are impacted. What does scripture say we should do and think about it? Our first special speaker will be **Dr. Lori Desautels, Assistant Professor at Butler University (photo, right).** Read more about Dr. Desautels on the Events page of our website.

All are welcome to Northminster Presents (yes, that means you ladies!) and anyone from our local community. No preparation for the presentation is required.

Please consider joining us for our weekly congregational dinner prior to the event. (Sign up online or call the church office to make your meal reservation.)

Future programs include “The Dwindling Presbyterian and Mainline Churches”, “Is there a conflict between Science and Religion” and “Modern day stress and how to manage it”.

Bake Sale was a Huge Success!
Thank you to all the Bakers and Shoppers. The Church Bake sale brought in more than $1100, which will be spent on life-changing items from the Presbyterian Giving Catalog (sewing machines and water filtration systems). and $200 to purchase air mattresses for emergency housing at the Iglesia Ebenezer Church. (This Indianapolis Church was the recipient of recent blanket drive.) Special Thanks to Carol Frohlich and Adam Newsom who baked and managed this successful fundraiser!

**Friday, February 11, 2022** 7:00 p.m.
Special Consensus
Two time Grammy nominee bluegrass band celebrates its 45th anniversary, winner of IBMA Song of the Year 2020.

**Sunday, March 27, 2022** 4:00 p.m.
Requiems and Alleluias
The Northminster Chancel Choir, orchestra, and internationally renowned soprano Sherezade Panthaki perform Michael Haydn’s Requiem, two fiery Vivaldi motets, and more.

Northminster Presbyterian Church  1660 Kessler Blvd East Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46220
317-251-9489   www.northminster-indy.org
Westminster Neighborhood Ministries - Shopping Bags Volunteers

If you look closely, there is a silver lining in the 2020-21 Coronavirus Pandemic. We humans appear to be re-evaluating everything in our lives—what is of importance to us and to others and how and when those two motivations intersect. For the Mission Team, we have worked closely with Westminster Neighborhood Ministries in the past as well as supported them with our contributions. Now, we are rolling up our sleeves and volunteering on WNM’s frontlines.

For those who may be unfamiliar with Westminster Neighborhood Ministries, they are located on the near east side of Indianapolis, in the heart of underserved communities: 2325 East New York Street.

And WNS can use all the helping hands who raise theirs to volunteer. In addition to their food pantry, they serve hot meals in their dining hall, as well as offering a multitude of other services. NPC Volunteer Coordinator John Reed shepherded a small group in November and came back reporting that WNS is in an “all hands on deck” situation. There is always something that can be done. You don’t need any special training; WNS staff are available to guide you.

Northminster is just now re-scheduling volunteer days as we “reopen” semi-post Pandemic. Currently, we are signed up for the 2nd Monday of every month. As previously noted, however, you are free to sign up for another day(s) that works for your schedule. WNS offers volunteer schedules for Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays 9am to 12 Noon. Families looking for service activities are encouraged to volunteer on weekends. And as always, our intrepid Coordinator John Reed can be contacted for additional information: Mobile phone (317) 919-6505 or Email: bjjkreed@comcast.net

Northminster is also resuming paper and plastic bag collection at the church for Westminster Neighborhood Services. So, if you’ve been stockpiling bags for the past eighteen months, now is the time to share your collection! Green collection receptacle is located in the hall across from the church office.

So, whether you’re donating shopping bags, signing up to volunteer, making a monetary contribution, or participating in our recent health & hygiene drive of shampoo & deodorant, YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE in the lives of our most vulnerable and needful fellow Indianapolis citizens. Mission Team so appreciates your generosity and thanks you for being in action in Christ’s name.

Events for Families!

Pokagon 2022 - Jan 21-23
Family Game Night - Sunday, Feb 20, 5:00-7:00 pm
Indy Fuel Hockey Game - Sunday, March 20, 3:00 pm
Indy Fuel vs Cincinnati (Family Fun Day + Kids Eat Free)
Tickets $20 each. If 50 or more come everyone will receive an Indy Fuel Hat. Kids 12 and under will receive one food voucher to redeem at the concession stand valid for a hot dog, small fry, small drink, and cookie.
Register online at www.indyfuelhockey.com
Northminster Reads

**Sunday, January 23 - 5:30 p.m. on Zoom**

*Jesus and the Disinherited* by Howard Thurman. In this classic work, theologian and religious leader Howard Thurman demonstrates how the gospel may be read as a manual of resistance for the poor and disenfranchised. Thurman reveals that Jesus is a partner in the pain of the oppressed. It is believed that Martin Luther King, Jr. carried this book with him at all times - and that it deeply influenced his writing of the Letter from the Birmingham Jail.

Meeting ID: 756 536 8661  Passcode: 410957

**Sunday, February 20 -- 5:30 p.m. on Zoom**

*The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin. A national bestseller when it first appeared in 1963, this book galvanized the nation and gave passionate voice to the emerging civil rights movement. It consists of two "letters," written on the occasion of the centennial of the Emancipation Proclamation. Baldwin's classic is as urgent today as it was when it was written.

Meeting ID: 756 536 8661  Passcode: 410957

**Sunday, March 20 -- 5:30 p.m. on Zoom**

*Born on the Water* by Nicole Hannah-Jones and Renee Watson. Produced by the 1619 Project, this book of lyrical verses provides a pathway for readers of all ages to reflect on the origins of American identity by chronicling the consequences of slavery and the history of Black resistance in the United States. Written especially to empower children to feel connected to their roots, these powerful poems will convict us all.

Meeting ID: 756 536 8661  Passcode: 410957

**Coming in Lent**

Rev Carol McDonald will be offering a 4 part series on the book "Wholehearted Faith" by Rachel Held Evans. This will be offered on 3 Sundays during Lent with a final class offered on a Wednesday as a broad overview and review. Save these dates: **Sundays - March 6, 13, 20 and Wednesday, March 30.**

**Wednesday Night Programs**

*Join us at 6:00 pm!*

Jan 12 - Northminster Presents (see details in this newsletter)
Jan 19 - Krista Wright - Finding Calm through Yoga and Mindfulness
Jan 26 - Lisa Longo - Art for All (Papercut Stained Glass project)

**Youth Group**

Jan 2  No Youth Group (Christmas Break)
Jan 9  Youth Group
Jan 16 Youth Group
Jan 23 No Youth Group (Pokagon)
Jan 30 Youth Group Outing (TBA)

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**Senior Ministry News**

Northminster’s Senior Ministry Consultant position has been awarded partial funding for an additional year through the Smock Foundation. We are grateful to Smock for helping to fund Denise Harrington’s position for the 7th year!

**3B Exercise** resumes on January 10th. As you make your New Year’s Resolutions to live healthier and exercise come join us on Mondays at 3:00 pm in Calvin Hall. In 3B we work on exercising our minds, spirits, and bodies. All exercises are low impact with both the chair and standing exercises. The goal is to strengthen the body by increasing stamina and balance. Put 3B on your to do list for 2022!

**Alzheimer’s Support Groups for Caregivers** will continue in 2022 on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm at Irvington Presbyterian Church. The group is open to any caregiver who cares for someone diagnosis with a cognitive disorder and any dementia. The support group takes place in the parlor. Contact Denise Jones Harrington (317-251-9489 ext 26 or dharrington@northminster-indy.org) with questions about any of these events.